

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF ESCANABA, MICHIGAN
Regular Council Meeting
Thursday, January 3, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by the Honorable Mayor Marc D. Tall at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 410 Ludington Street.

Present: Mayor Marc D. Tall, Council Members, Ronald J. Beauchamp, Michael R. Sattem, and Peggy O'Connell Schumann.

Absent: Council Member Ralph B. Blasier

Sattem moved, Schumann seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to excuse Council Member Blasier.

Also Present: City Manager Patrick S. Jordan, City Department Heads, media, and members of the public.

Interim Clerk Weissert led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Sattem moved, Schumann seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to approve Special Meeting minutes from December 19, 2018.

Sattem moved, Schumann seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to approve Regular Meeting minutes from December 20, 2018, as corrected.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Schumann moved, Beauchamp seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to approve the Agenda as submitted.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATION – None

BRIEF PUBLIC COMMENT – None

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Resolution Approval - Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Act (OPRA) – Exemption – District No. 27. – 1204 Ludington Street.

Krysta Starz, owner of 1204 Ludington Street, has requested to be enrolled in the Obsolete Properties Rehabilitation Act (OPRA) (PA 146, 2000) which allows for partial exemption of property taxes for a specified period of time so that certain types of property improvements can be made. The intent of the legislation is to encourage rehabilitation of underutilized or decaying commercial or commercial/residential properties in certain designated communities. Administration recommended an OPRA exemption up to twelve (12) years beginning December 30, 2019, and ending December 30, 2031.

This being a public hearing, Mayor Tall asked for public comment.

Escanaba DDA Executive Director Ed Legault stated the building located at 1204 Ludington Street is in rough shape. Mr. Legault applauded Ms. Starz's efforts to move forward and retask this building into something that will really add value to our downtown.

Hearing no further public comment, Mayor Tall then closed the public hearing.

Krysta Starz, owner of 1204 Ludington Street, stated the property is registered with the National Historic Registry and will have to comply.

PH-1 "By Council Member Beauchamp, seconded by Council Member Sattem:

**RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AN APPLICATION FOR
OBSOLETE PROPERTY REHABILITATION EXEMPTION FOR
KRYSTA STARZ NO. 27**

Whereas, Pursuant to P.A. 146 of 2000, the City of Escanaba is a Qualified Local Governmental Unit eligible to establish one or more Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Districts; and

Whereas, The City of Escanaba Legally established Obsolete Properties Rehabilitation District No. 27 on December 6, 2018, pursuant to a public hearing held on that date; and

Whereas, The taxable value of this exemption plus the aggregate taxable value of property already exempt under PA 146 of 2000 and under PA 198 of 1974 does not exceed 5% of the total taxable value of the City of Escanaba; and

Whereas, The applicant is not delinquent in any taxes related to the facility; and

Whereas, The applicant has provided all required items to the City of Escanaba; and

Whereas, The application is for obsolete property as defined in Sec. 2(h) of Public Act 146 of 2000; and

Whereas, Rehabilitation of this facility as covered by this exemption had not begun prior to December 6, 2018, the date the district was established; and

Whereas, The application relates to a rehabilitation program that, when completed, constitutes a rehabilitated facility within the meaning of PA 146 of 2000, situated within an Obsolete Property Rehabilitation District; and

Whereas, Completion of the rehabilitated facility is calculated to, and will, at the time of issuance of the certificate, have the reasonable likelihood to increase commercial activity, to create employment, to retain employment, and to revitalize an urban area; and

Whereas, The rehabilitation includes improvements aggregating 10% or more of the true cash value of the property at commencement of the rehabilitation as provided by Sec. 2(l) of PA 146 of 2000; and

Whereas, The application was approved at a public hearing on January 3, 2018, provided by Sec. 4(2) of PA 146 of 2000, allowing a period of thirty-seven (37) months for completion of the rehabilitation;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the City Council of the City of Escanaba that
Krysta Starz 1204 Ludington Street

Be and is hereby granted an Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Exemption for the real property located in Obsolete Property Rehabilitation District No. 27 at 1204 Ludington Street, described as E ½ OF LOT 2 OF BLK 80 OF THE PROPRIETORS 1ST ADDITION, City of Escanaba, Delta County, Michigan,

For a period of twelve years beginning December 30, 2019, and ending December 30, 2031.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Beauchamp, Sattem, Schumann, Tall

Nays: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.”

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

NEW BUSINESS

Approval – Scheduling of Public Hearings – 2019/20 Fiscal Year Budget Preparation – Citizen Participation.

Each year, the City Council holds public hearings to facilitate input from citizens for the upcoming fiscal year budget. Administration sought Council approval to schedule the first of three (3) public hearings for January 17, 2019. Additionally, Administration sought City Council approval to schedule additional public hearings for February 14, 2019, and March 14, 2019.

NB-1 Sattem moved, Schumann seconded, to schedule public hearings for January 17, 2019, February 14, 2019, and March 14, 2019, for citizen input on the 2019/20 Fiscal Year Budget.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Sattem, Schumann, Beauchamp, Tall

Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Approval – Resolution of Support – Bonifas Art Center – 2019 Music Mondays Summer Concerts.

The Bonifas Art Center sought Council approval of a resolution supporting their grant application to the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs seeking funds for the “Music Mondays” Summer Concert Series. If approved, the City of Escanaba will serve as the Administrator for the funds. Administration recommended approval.

NB-2 “By Council Member Schumann, seconded by Council Member Beauchamp:

**Resolution in Support of a Grant Application to the
Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs**

**AT A MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ESCANABA, MICHIGAN,
HELD ON JANUARY 3, 2019**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE GRANT APPLICATION TO THE MICHIGAN
COUNCIL FOR ARTS AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS SEEKING MATCHING FUNDS
FOR THE "MUSIC MONDAYS" SUMMER CONCERT SERIES.**

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Escanaba, Michigan, does hereby find as follows:

WHEREAS, the City desires to support the cultural lives of area residents through opportunities to be exposed to new art and music;

WHEREAS, the City has an excellent partner in the Bonifas Arts Center to successfully organize and promote community events, and promote cultural tourism and sponsor area musicians through public concerts;

WHEREAS, the grant funds will be administered, if awarded, as set forth in the application;

WHEREAS, the City has a policy detailing equal opportunity provisions for job applicants and public accommodations and agrees to conform to the Assurances and Guidelines set forth in the application;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY PROCLAIMED by the City Council of the City of Escanaba, Michigan, that the grant application should be made to the Michigan Council for Arts and Cultural Affairs for the January 15, 2019 deadline.

Ayes: Schumann, Beauchamp, Sattem, Tall
Nays: None

RESOLUTION DECLARED ADOPTED.”

Discussion – Solar panel purchasing program.

City Council discussed the draft solar panel purchasing documents. These documents needed to be finalized and approved by City Council before panels are made available to our customers.

NB-3 Schumann moved, Sattem seconded, to approve the solar panel purchasing documents for purchase of solar panels.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Schumann, Sattem, Beauchamp, Tall
Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Approval – Historic District Commission Study Committee Appointment.

Administration requested City Council appoint Don Curran and Elizabeth Keller as the study committee for Richter Brewer Historic District boundary modification.

NB-4 Schumann moved, Sattem seconded, **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**, to approve to appoint Don Curran and Elizabeth Keller as the study committee for Richter Brewer Historic District boundary modification.

Condemnation proceedings for 1608 North 19th Street.

Administration requested Council to approve the condemnation and if required, demolition of a residential home and shed located at 1608 North 19th Street. If approved Administration requested scheduling a public hearing for February 7, 2019.

NB-5 Sattem moved, Schumann seconded, to set a condemnation hearing for February 7, 2019, for a residential home and shed located at 1608 North 19th Street.

Upon a call of the roll, the vote was as follows:

Ayes: Sattem, Schumann, Beauchamp, Tall
Nays: None

MOTION CARRIED.

APPOINTMENT(S) TO CITY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES – None
BOARD, COMMISSION, AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council Members reviewed City Board and Commission meetings each attended since the last City Council Meeting.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Thanked everyone for supporting the community during the holidays;
- Thanked everyone involved with the fireworks on New Year’s Eve.

Hearing no further public comment, the Council adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Tammy A. Weissert, CMC
Interim City Clerk

Approved: _____
Marc D. Tall, Mayor